

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00  
SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 TRSE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
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O R 122047Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5280  
INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS  
AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTO DOMINGO 3792

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, DR  
SUBJECT: GODR EFFORTS TO IMPOSE CONTROVERSIAL ELECTORAL BOARD  
RULING

REF: SANTO DOMINGO 3764

1. THE GOVERNMENT TOOK TWO MEASURES ON JULY 11 TO ATTEMPT TO  
IMPOSE THE JULY 7 RULING OF THE CENTRAL ELECTORAL BOARD (JCE)  
WHICH, CONTRARY TO THE MAY 16 VOTE COUNT, GAVE FOUR SENATE AND  
ONE CONGRESSIONAL SEATS TO THE RULING REFORMISTA PARTY BY  
ALLOCATING NON-EXISTENT VOTES TO IT.

2. THE LATEST MANEUVERS APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN INSPIRED BY THE  
PRESIDENTIAL PALACE.  
THE FIRST INVOLVED A RESOLUTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE  
REFORMISTA-CONTROLLED CONGRESS THAT "RESERVED ITS RIGHT" TO EXAMINE  
JCE DOCUMENTS (ACTAS) ESTABLISHING THE ELECTION OF GUZMAN AND HIS  
RUNNING MATE, JACOB MAJLUTA. THESE DOCUMENTS, WHICH MAKE UP THE  
NOTORIOUS JCE "DECISION" OF JULY 7 ARE SUBMITTED, (NORMALLY  
ROUTINELY) AS REQUIRED BY THE CONSTITUTION, TO THE JOINT SENATE-  
HOUSE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY WHICH THEN PROCLAIMS THE NEW  
PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT. HOWEVER, THE BALAGUER-CONTROLLED  
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CONGRESS APPEARS TO BE HOLDING PROCLAMATION OF  
GUZMAN AND MAJLUTA HOSTAGE TO A PRD ACCEPTANCE OF THE LOSS  
OF A SENATE MAJORITY.

3. A JOINT COMMUNIQUE OF THE ARMED FORCES AND THE NATIONAL  
POLICE WAS ISSUED LATE ON THE NIGHT OF JULY 11-12. IN THIS

STATEMENT, THE COMBINED ARMED FORCES OF THE NATION PROCLAIM THEIR "UNRESTRICTED SUPPORT" FOR THE JCE'S JULY 7 DECISION. THE COMMUNIQUE CONTINUED THAT THE DECISION IS "THE ONLY MEASURE WHICH...CAN GUARANTEE CONTINUED PEACE, MAINTAIN A CONSTITUTIONAL

REGIME, AND MAKE POSSIBLE THE PEACEFUL TRANSFER OF POWER ON THE DATE INDICATED BY THE CONSTITUTION."

4. THE COMMUNIQUE WARNED AGAINST THE CALLING OF STRIKES OR "INCITATIONS TO PROVOCATIVE ACTS" AND CONCLUDED WITH THE STATEMENT THAT THE ARMED FORCES AND POLICE "WILL NOT FAIL TO TAKE ANY MEASURE (NECESSARY) TO ASSURE THE TRANQUILITY OF THE CITIZENRY... AND WILL DENY THEIR SUPPORT TO ANY MANEUVER WHICH DIFFERS FROM THE LINES OR PURPOSES CONTAINED IN THIS COMMUNIQUE."

5. THE DOCUMENT WAS SIGNED BY SECRETARY OF THE ARMED FORCES BEAUCHAMP, CHIEF OF POLICE NIVAR, THE CHIEFS OF STAFF OF THE ARMY, NAVY AND AIR FORCE, AND THE THREE UNDERSECRETARIES OF THE ARMED FORCES AND WAS SAID TO BE ADHERED TO BY ALL MILITARY OFFICERS DOWN TO THE RANK OF CAPTAIN.

6. COMMENT: BOTH THE ABOVE MEASURES ARE TRANSPARENT EFFORTS TO DERAIL THE PARTIDO REVOLUCIONARIO DOMINICANO'S CONFIDENTIAL

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DECISION TO TAKE LEGAL MEASURES AGAINST THE JCE'S RULING (REFTEL). ON JULY 11, THE PRD FORMALLY REQUESTED THE SUPREME COURT TO ANNUL THE JCE DECISION. BOTH THE ARMED FORCES/POLICE COMMUNIQUE AND THE CONGRESSIONAL RESOLUTION THUS SEEM CLEARLY AIMED AT PRESSURING (SOME SOURCES CALL IT "BLACKMAILING") THE SUPREME COURT NOT TO CONSIDER THE PRD'S MOTION.

7. CONTACTS WITH PRD LEADERS TODAY (JULY 12), INDICATE THAT THE PARTY WILL NOT ALLOW ITSELF TO BE PROVOKED BY WHAT SOME SEE AS A BLUFF BY THE GOVERNMENT; THEY PLAN TO RESTRAIN THEIR FOLLOWERS AND COOLY CONTINUE THEIR LEGAL RE COURSE.

8. MEANWHILE THEY ARE REIGNING THAT THE ARMED FORCES COMMUNIQUE SUPPORTING THE JCE DECISION REPRESENTS ONE MORE SIGN OF ADHERENCE TO THE ELECTORAL VICTORY OF THEIR PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE. AND AT A CEREMONY TODAY AT PRD HEADQUARTERS DURING WHICH GUZMAN AND MAJLUTA WERE FORMALLY HANDED THEIR OFFICIAL CERTIFICATES OF ELECTION BY JCE FUNCTIONARIES, NOT ONCE DID THEY MENTION THE TWO PROVOCATIVE MEASURES TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT.

9. THE PRD DOES NOT HAVE MUCH FAITH THAT THE SUPREME COURT,  
A BODY MADE UP OF BALAGUER APPOINTEES, WILL RIGHT THE WRONG DONE  
BY THE JCE, AND THE PARTY SEEMS PREPARED TO LIVE WITH THE  
FIAT OF THE JCE, AT LEAST UNTIL ITS CANDIDATES ARE IN OFFICE.  
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## Message Attributes

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